



HR1069

LRB098 21143 RLC 59003 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Too many minor offenders, especially drug
3 offenders, are sentenced to terms of imprisonment in county
4 jails and the Department of Corrections; and

5 WHEREAS, Many offenders are sentenced to imprisonment for
6 possession of small quantities of controlled substances; and

7 WHEREAS, These sentences disproportionately impact the poor
8 and disadvantaged; and

9 WHEREAS, The costs of incarceration exceed the costs of
10 home confinement and treatment; and

11 WHEREAS, Confinement of these offenders in jail or the
12 Department of Corrections diverts resources that should be
13 devoted to protecting the public from violent offenders; and

14 WHEREAS, Attitudes toward drug addiction have changed over
15 the years; and

16 WHEREAS, Drug addiction is as much a medical problem as a
17 criminal justice issue; and

18 WHEREAS, Treatment is a preferred disposition to jail time

1 for persons convicted of possession of small quantities of
2 controlled substances; and

3 WHEREAS, We urge prosecutors and judges to consider home
4 confinement to jail time for these low level drug offenders;
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we urge the Governor and the Department of Corrections to
9 discourage prosecutors from recommending and judges from
10 sentencing low level drug offenders to the county jail or the
11 Department of Corrections; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we urge the Governor and the Director of
13 Corrections to do everything in their power to have low level
14 drug offenders currently serving sentences in Department of
15 Corrections facilities released to home confinement; and be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
18 delivered to the Governor and to the Director of Corrections.